(*b*) how many schools there are in the State satisfying those conditions ; and

(*c*) whether Arabic Munshies and Arabic Instructors were appointed in those schools ?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*) :

(*a*) The member is referred to Section I of G. O. No. E. 1980, dated the 31st May 1919.

(*b*) 163 departmental schools.

(*c*) Yes, in 137 schools.

MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*) : In answer to part (*a*), I am asked to refer to a G. O. I wish to know whether what I want is contained in that G. O.

PRESIDENT : Was the G. O. published ?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*) : It was published in the Government Gazette.

MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*) : But that was long long ago.

PRESIDENT : That cannot be helped.

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*) : On a previous occasion, I offered to give the honourable member a copy of the G. O.; but he never asked for it.

MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*) : I asked for a copy of the G. O., and the Government are not offering it now.

PRESIDENT : When the Director offered the member a copy of the G. O.; he did not pursue the matter. That is what the Director now says.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : This G. O. was referred to on two or three days, and answers were based on the same.

PRESIDENT : If Mr. Mahomed has any other new point to ask, he may do so.

MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*) ; I know that the G. O. was published in the Gazette. All that I want to know is whether the information I require is contained in that G. O.

PRESIDENT : It is a published document. The Director is within his rights to refer the member to a published document.

MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*) : Am I to understand that only 26 schools are wanting in Arabic Instructors ?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): Yes

MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*) : Will the Government be pleased to appoint Arabic Munshies to the 26 schools at the earliest opportunity ?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*) : The Government are doing this to the extent to which funds permit every year. If the Honourable member will look at the preliminary budget of this year, he will see provision is made for the teaching of Arabic in nearly half-a-dozen schools.

English Middle School at Nedumangad.

92. ***MR. S. J. NAIR** (*Nedumangad*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) how many years it is since the English Middle School at Nedumangad was started ; and

(*b*) the class-war strength of the school ?

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MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*):

(*a*) Fifteen years.

(*b*) Preparatory Class	...	54
Form I	...	41
Form II	...	26
Form III	...	24

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know whether there is any rule prescribing the minimum strength of students for enhancing the status of a middle school to a high school?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): There is no definite Rule. But the department is insisting on a strength of at least 20 to 25 pupils in the case of the high school classes.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know why the English middle school at Nedumangad has not yet been raised to a high school?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): The strength of the III Form is only 24. The strength of form IV will be only 18 or 19 provided all the promoted boys decide to join the school. The circumstances do not seem to justify the opening of a high school immediately at Nedumangad.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Are the Government aware that the strength is not encouraging simply because there is no scope for higher studies in that school?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): I am afraid I cannot follow that argument.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Are the Government aware that years ago, when the department thought of discontinuing the high school classes of Neyyattinkara, the same conditions prevailed in that school?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): I claim notice.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): From the figures given in answer to part (*b*), does not the member think that there is a wastage of education in Nedumangad?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): I do not like to answer that question, because it may wound the susceptabilities of the Honourable member for Nedumangad.

PRESIDENT: Further, it is a matter of opinion.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): May I know why Nedumangad was backward in English education?

PRESIDENT: I believe you are not going to insinuate because it is represented by Mr. S. J. Nair. (*Laughter.*)

Kottayam-Vaikam Bus Service.

93. *MR. P. C. KURIYAN (*Kottayam I*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether there is a direct or through bus service between Kottayam and Vaikam:

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